

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 5235

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: CVIS, SREF, CB, US

SUBJ: CAMBODIANS IN JAPAN

REF: A) TOKYO 4941: B) STATE 90532 C) TOKYO 5191

D) STATE 090648 E) PARIS 09718

1. FOLLOWING REFINES REF A REGARDING CAMBODIANS: THERE ARE ABOUT 100 CAMBODIANS IN JAPAN, FIFTY STUDENTS AND FIFTY IN KHMER EMBASSY. KHMER EMBASSY MINISTER SUM MANIT APRIL 19 PROVIDED US RUNDOWN OF KHMER DIPLOMATS' INTENTIONS: A) AMBASSADOR KOUN WICK, HIS WIFE AND TWO GRANDCHILDREN WILL LEAVE TOKYO APRIL 24 FOR FRANCE. KHMER EMBASSY HAD TEN ORDINARY PASSPORTS, OF WHICH WICK'S WILL TAKE TWO: GRANDCHILDREN (MINORS) ALREADY HAD ORDINARY PASSPORTS. SINCE CONVERSATION WITH DCM REPORTED REF C. FRENCH EMBASSY HAS ISSUED THREE-MONTH VISAS TO WICKS AND AFTER CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION WITH GOJ, FONOFF AGREED TO TRANSFER JAPANESE VISAS FROM DIPLOMATIC TO ORDINARY PASSPORTS: B) MIN-COUNS SUM MANIT, WIFE, AND SIX CHILDREN (ALL MINORS) TOOK REMAINING EIGHT ORDINARY PASSPORTS. MANITS HAVE THREE-MONTH VISAS TO FRANCE. MANIT IS FLYING TO PARIS THIS WEEK TO MAKE ARRANGMENTS FOR HIS FAMILY TO GO TO FRANCE IN JUNE. MANIT EXPECTS HE AND ALL OTHER DIPLOMATS WILL BE RECALLED TO PHNOM PENH. HE PLANS TO RETURN ALONE. BOTH AMB WICK AND MIN MANIT HOPE THEIR FAMILIES CAN REMAIN IN FRANCE, BUT BOTH HAVE ASKED FOR HELP IN ARRANGING TO GO TO US SHOULD GOJ FORCE THEM TO LEAVE

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WHEN THREE-MONTH VISAS EXPIRE OR, IN CASE OF MANITS, SHOULD

THEY BE UNABLE TO FIND MEANS FOR LIVELIHOOD IN FRANCE.

C) FIRST SECRETARY PRAK SAEM, WIFE, FOUR CHILDREN(MINORS) HAVE VISAS FOR US WITH FRIENDS IN NY WHO GUARANTEE THEIR LIVELIHOOD. D) CULTURAL ATTACHE SON DOAN CHUONG,WIFE, THREE CHILDREN(MINORS) HAVE VISAS FOR US AND FRIENDS AND BROTHER FOR SUPPORT IN TEXAS. E) COMMERCIAL ATTACHE NEANG PHANG AND FAMILY HAVE VIAS FOR FRANCE. EMBASSY HAS AN ADDITIONAL 20-25 STAFF INCLUDING FAMILIES: THEY ARE EXPECTED TO RETURN TO CAMBODIA IF SO INSTRUCTED.

2. MANIT ALSO DISCUSSED QUESTION OF STUDENTS WITH FONOFF. FONOFF IS SYMPATHETIC AND ADVISED MANIT TO HAVE EMBASSY EXTEND VALIDITY OF STUDENT PASSPORTS FOR TWO-THREE YEARS. SHOULD GRUNK OPEN AN EMBASSY IN TOKYO, STUDENTS COULD CHANGE THEIR PASSPORTS, AS THEY WISH, FOR RETURN TO CAMBODIA. WE EXPECT MOST WOULD ELECT TO RETURN ALTHOUGH A FEW COULD CHOOSE TO GO TO FRANCE G US WHEN THEY COMPLETE THEIR STUDIES HERE.

3. THUS, AT THIS POINT THERE APPEAR TO BE TWO FAMILIES, OR TOTAL OF ELEVEN PEOPLE, PLANNING TO DO TO US. THERE ARE NO INDICATIONS THAT ANY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS REQUIRED. IN LONGER RUN, SOME STUDENTS MAY WISH TO GO TO US BUT WE ASSUME THEY WILL SEEK ORDINARY VISAS AND NOT TRY TO ENTER AS REFUGEES.

4. AM WICK CALLED APRIL 21 TO TELL DCM PERSONALLY THAT HE AND HIS FAMILY AND DAUGHTER-IN-LAW WERE LEAVING FOR PARIS APRIL 24. DCM PASSED GIST OF PARIS 09718 DURING CALL AND AMB SEEMED SOMEWHAT REASSURED BY THIS INFORMATION BUT SAID HE MAY STILL WISH TO GO TO US. IN LIGHT OF STATE 090648, DCM COULD GIVE HIM NO ENCOURAGEMENT BUT SUGGESTED THAT HE CONTACT OUR EMBASSY IN PARIS SHOULD HE WISH TO PURSUE THIS AT LATER DATE.
HODGSON

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